

# ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

*File Copy*

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Swaziland Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

March 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

C/MOD

2.

3.

C/ESG

4.

5.

C/FED

6.

7.

C/ADD

8.

9.

C/HED

10.

11.

C/Computer Operations

12.

13.

14.

15.

Retain/Destroy

FORM 1-79

610

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

~~SECRET~~



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
P.O. Box 199  
Mbabane, Swaziland

6 April 1988  
FBIS-5808-88

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Swaziland Bureau--March 1988

## I. GENERAL

1. The Embassy residential security upgrade program continues with enhancements to the safe haven areas in the bureau houses. This includes fitting stronger grillwork on all second floor windows and installing solid core doors controlling access to safe haven areas.

2. In the wake of the Bureau Break-in in February, new security measures at the bureau include new locks on the front door and window escape bars, a new infrared after-hours alarm system, and an SEDD counter installed in the Bureau safe. These measures, and the recommendations of the deputy chief of security in Monrovia, convinced the Ambassador to seek waivers to the new State Department storage regulations in order to retain the Bureau safe and to prevent the embassy being downgraded overall to the Secret level.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Efforts to achieve a settlement of the Angolan civil war reached a critical point during the month with a series of negotiations involving the United States, Angola, Cuba, the USSR, and South Africa. Angola continues to refuse to deal with UNITA, but South Africa reiterated its support for rebel leader Savimbi in a "secret" meeting in Cape Town. As the month ended, RSA Foreign Minister Pik Botha warned against premature optimism, and an Angolan commentary criticized the U.S. for trying to mediate while continuing to support UNITA.

2. UNITA announced the formation of a provisional government on 24 March, but quickly sought to squash rumors by denying that the move implied that partition of the country was being contemplated. The rebel group also announced that it would not seek international recognition for the new government.

3. South Africa's UN envoy reacted to the mounting international criticism of its internal and regional policies by telling the Security Council members to do "their damndest." The government then proceeded to take action

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to quell the campaign of outspoken criticism launched by black church leaders in the wake of the banning of 18 black organizations. Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Reverend Alan Boesak were among those arrested during a march to present a petition to Parliament; and the NEW NATION newspaper, published by the Catholic Church, was closed down for 3 months. On 31 March, the government banned all open-air meetings (except sports and funerals) for 1 year.

4. Following up on information gained from an ANC suspect captured in a clash near the Botswana border in which 3 other suspected terrorists were killed, RSA soldiers killed 4 people in a raid on a suspected ANC hideout on the outskirts of Gaborone. Later the same day, SADF troops killed another 4 terrorists in a firefight in the black homeland of Venda. But South Africa denied responsibility for the murder of the ANC representative in France, who was gunned down on a Paris street within a few hours of the other killings.

#### B. Communications

The Bureau continued to be plagued by communications outages during March. Outages on 2, 5-8, 9, 13, 14, 17-19, 22-23, and 26 March totaled 134 hours. In addition to the usual problems with Swazi and South African PTT lines, the two major outages on the 5th and the 17th were traced to the link between Amembassy Pretoria and the State facility at Beltsville, Md.

#### C. Lateral Services

At the request of the Embassy DCM, Swaziland Bureau asked London PMU to do a search for a 6-month-old article in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA by senior USSR Foreign Ministry advisor, which was highly critical of Soviet policy in Africa. PMU found the 3-take article and refiled it to Mbabane by the next day. The DCM was highly appreciative and most impressed by the fast service.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

Communications Section Supervisor [ ] gave birth to a healthy baby boy on 2 March.

25X1

### IV. VISITS

MONSEC Deputy Chief [ ] visited the Bureau 19-21 March to inspect Bureau security and make recommendations to prevent future break-ins.

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[ ]  
Chief, Swaziland Bureau

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